

a1
conclude

2. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein when in said undeformed state
said [annular] resilient element has a circular cross-section [when undeformed].

Claim 3, line 1: before "including" insert --further--.

Claim 6, line 1: before "including" insert --further--.

Claim 7, line 1: before "including" insert --further--.

a2
9. (Amended) The device of claim 7 wherein said [element is connected to]
tubular graft is a fabric graft, said element being connected to said fabric graft at
only one end of said fabric graft.

10. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said element is [situated inside
a body passage in a] C-shaped [deformed state,] and folded about a diametric axis
of said element when in said deformed state.

Claim 11, line 1: before "including" insert --further--.

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Claim 16, line 2: replace "spring" with --resilient--.

Claim 18, line 2: replace "spring" with --resilient--.

Claim 19, line 1: before "including" insert --further--.

Claim 21, line 3: after "resilient" insert --substantially--.

a4 ~~Sub E5~~ 23. (Amended) The prosthesis of claim 21, wherein said annular ring is movable to an undeformed state wherein said annular ring has an undeformed diameter, and wherein said tubular graft has a diameter less than the undeformed diameter of said annular ring. ^{Spring}

Claim 28, line 1: before "including" insert --further--.

a5 29. (Amended) An apparatus for [securing] inserting a prosthesis [to an internal surface of] into a body passage, said prosthesis having a resiliently deformable substantially annular ring and a tubular graft having a pair of opposed free ends, one of said free ends being attached to said annular ring, comprising:

[a resiliently deformable annular ring:

a tubular graft having a pair of opposed free ends, one of said free ends attached to said annular ring; and]

a device releasably coupled to said prosthesis and adapted to hold said prosthesis in a compressed state, said device further adapted to enable said ring to be remotely expanded and recompressed [and expanded] when said ring is within said body passage.

Claim 30, line 2: before "includes" insert --further--.

32. (Amended) A prosthesis for insertion within a body passage comprising:
a first [prosthesis] section including a first resiliently deformable

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substantially annular [spring] element and a first tubular graft, said first tubular graft having a pair of free ends, said [annular] first [spring] resilient element connected to one of said free ends, said first resilient element being movable between an undeformed state wherein said element has an undeformed diameter greater than the diameter of said body passage, and a deformed state wherein said element is partially folded and has a diameter smaller than when in said undeformed state, said element being in said deformed state when retaining said prosthesis in said body passage; and

a second [prosthesis] section [arranged to engage the interior of said first prosthesis section in common axial alignment therewith,] axially aligned with said first section, said second [prosthesis] section including a second resiliently deformable substantially annular [spring] resilient element [adapted to engage], said second resilient element of said second section adapted to communicate with and engage an internal surface of said first tubular graft of said first [prosthesis] section at a selected location so as to adjustably define a resulting length of the prosthesis.

33. (Amended) The prosthesis of claim 32 wherein said second [prosthesis] section further includes a second tubular graft attached to said second [annular spring] resilient element, said second tubular graft having a pair of free ends, one of said free ends connected to said second [spring] resilient element [and the other one of said free ends connected to a device for retaining said free end in an open configuration].

Claim 34, line 2: before "includes" insert --further--.

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35. (Amended) The prosthesis of claim 34 further including third and fourth [prosthesis] sections telescopically engaging said relatively rigid elements on said free end of said second [prosthesis] section, each of said third and fourth [prosthesis] sections including a pair of substantially annular resilient deformable [spring] elements and a tubular graft, said [spring] resilient elements of said third

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section being attached to respective free ends of said tubular graft of said third section, and said resilient elements of said fourth section being attached to respective free ends of said tubular graft of said fourth section, at least one of said pair of [spring] resilient elements of each of said third and fourth section adapted to engage the interior of said second [prosthesis] section.

Cancel claims 37-46.

Claim 47, line 3: replace "sleeve" with --graft--.

Claim 48, line 2: delete "spring".

Claim 51, line 2: delete "spring".

Please add the following new claims:

52. A method for securing the prostheses of claim 12 in a body passage comprising the steps of:

folding said resilient element into a first deformed state;

positioning said resilient element at a desired position within said body passage; and

allowing said resilient element to resiliently expand to a second deformed state wherein the diameter of said element in said second deformed state is greater than the diameter of said element in said first deformed state, but smaller than the diameter of said element in said undeformed state.

53. The method of claim 52 further including the steps of deforming said resilient element prior to inserting said element in said body passage, positioning said resilient element at a desired location in said body passage and causing said resilient element to expand and engage said body passage.

54. The method of claim 53 further including the steps of selectively compressing and releasing the compression of said resilient element when positioned at a location within said body passage using a remote actuator.

55. The method of claim 52 further including the steps of positioning said prosthesis at said desired location in said body passage by inserting said prosthesis into the interior of a tubular catheter, positioning the catheter at said desired location within said body passage and ejecting said prosthesis from the interior of said catheter.

56. A method for repairing a diseased vessel using the device of claim 1, comprising the steps of:

folding said resilient element around its diametric axis to assume a smaller cross-sectional configuration;

forming a pair of loops extending away from said axis; and

arranging said element in said vessel with said diametric axis proximate to an intersecting vessel such that said loops extend at least partially past the intersecting vessel without occluding said intersecting vessel.

57. The method of claim 56 further including the step of causing said resilient element to be resiliently biased against said diseased vessel when in place in said diseased vessel.

58. A method of securing the device of claim 1 inside a body passage comprising the steps of:

deforming said resilient element by folding said element along its diametric axis;

positioning said resilient element inside said body passage and causing said resilient element to expand resiliently against said body passage; and causing said resilient element to continuously press against said body passage.